PRICE TWO CENTS.

Poreign Fleet Seizes Taku Forts After Being Fired On.

SHIPS LOSE 21 MEN KILLED.

No Americans in the List-Rumor That Two British Ships Were Sunk.

Fight Lasts Seven Hours-Chinese Open Fire in Response to a Demand for Surrender Landing Parties From the Shipe Take the Forts by Assault-One Report Says Fully no Chinese Were Killed-Russians Suffer Bearlest Loss Among the Allied Forces th Ship Algerine, German Gunboat litte and Busslan Gunboat Mandebur Dam-- Chinese Gunboats Seized - Relief Column Fails to Reach Pekin and Is Reported to Have Returned to Tien-Tein Growing Fear That a Massacre Has Occarred in Legation Street-No News From Pekin-China New at War With the Civilized World - Chinese Said to Be Firing Into the Foreign Quarter at Tien-Tein.

BERLIN, June 18 .- The German Consul at Che-

too cables to the Foreign Office that a Japanese torpedo boat arrived there last night. She reported that the Chinese had placed torpedoes in the Taku River (Pet-Ho) and assembled troops from Shan-Hia-Kwan at Taku. The foreign paval commanders, after a conference on board the Russian Admiral's flagship, sent an ultimatum to the Chinese, demanding the withdrawal of the troops from the forts before 2 o'clock on Sunday afternoon.

At 1 o'clock on the morning of that day the forts opened fire on the warships, to which the German, Russian, British, French and Japanese vessels replied.

The firing lasted seven hours. Two British ships were apparently sunk between the forts. The telegraph line and the railway between Taku and Tien-Tein have been destroyed. Water communication between the two places

sent were firing into the foreign settlements at

It adds that nothing has been heard of the German detachment that was sent to Pekin or of the legations at the capital.

The German ganboat Iltis lost three men killed and seven wounded at the storming of

CHEFOO, June 18, Later. - The forts on both sides of the Pel-Ho are now occupied by the international forces.

It is reported that the British warship Algerine, the German gunboat Iltis and a Russian gunboat were badly damaged by the fire from the forts. It is stated that the Russian casualties were 16 killed and 45 wounded; German, 3 killed and 7 wounded; British, 1 killed and 4 wounded, and French, 1 killed and 1 wounded, a total of 21 killed and 57 wounded.

The Chinese torpedo boats have been seized by the allied fleet.

The situation is critical at the treaty port of New Chwang, Province of Leao-Tong. Two villages near that place have been burned.

LONDON, June 19 .- A despatch to the Central News from Shanghal confirms the report of the German Consul at Chefoo regarding the action at Taku between the Chinese and the foreign feet, but makes no mention of the sinking of any British vessel. It says that after six hours fighting two of the forts were knocked to pieces. Troops were then landed and captured all the forts by assault.

A Chefoo despatch of to-day's date says it is reported that men from the combined fleets occupied the Taku north forts on June 17 after exploding the Chinese magazine. The British sloop Algerine was damaged and two officers

and four men were wounded. It is stated that large forces of Japanese and Russian troops are being landed. All is quiet

at Chefoo. A despatch to the Times from Shanghai gives from official sources a brief description of the fighting at Taku which agrees in the main with the reports from Chefoo. It bays that the ultimatum sent by the naval commanders threatened to destroy the forts unless the troops were disbanded. The Japanese torpedo-beat destroyer which took the news to Chefoo reported that the commander of the German gunboat Iltis was seriously

The same correspondent states that nothing is kown at Taku regarding Admiral Seymonr's whereabouts. Two British, one American and five Chinese warships are now at Chefoo. Other correspondents at Shanghai, apparently drawing their information from the usual questionable sources, report that the landing parties which occupied the forts drove out the Chinese at the point of the bayonet. The struggle was short-Fully 400 Chinese were killed. The attackers numbered 2,000. They were chiefly Russians, but included Americans, British, Italians, Germans, Japanese, French and Austrians. The Russian troops on the land side are reported to have cooperated with the naval force.

The fire of the forts was at first directed at the gunboats lying inshore, namely, the Yorktown (American), Algerine and Iltis, Mandshur (Russian) and Atago (Japanese) Several of them were struck by shells from the North Account National Republican Convention North American Turnfest; June 15th to 21st, 13-inch guns, which made good practice.

shell exploded in the Mandshur's magazine and the vessel was blown up. The Algerine and Iltis were badly damaged, being struck thirteen or fourteen times.

The mention of the Yorktown is evidently an error, as Commander Taussig of that gunboat wired to the department yesterday a notice of the Yorktown's departure then from Chefoo for Taku with instructions for Admiral Kempff.

RELIEF FAILS TO REACH PERIN.

Fear That a Massacre Has Occurred in Legation Street-Attitude of the Powers. Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

LONDON, June 18.-While the main incidents of the international bombardment and capture of the Taku forts are clearly outlined in the official and other despatches from China, there is nothing to relieve the anxiety concerning the Americans and Europeans who are besieged in Pekin. Even Shanghai does not venture to send rumors on the subject.

The silence is almost as complete regarding the position of Admiral Seymour's relief force. The only authority for the statement that they have returned to Tien-Tsin is the message brought to Chefoo from Taku by the Japanese warship Tyopashi, and on this Lord Salisbury's statement in the House of Lords was based.

The Admiralty issued the telegram received through the commander of the British warship Phoenix at Chefoo: "The Japanese man-of-war Tyopashi has just arrived from Taku. Her commander reports that the international force under Admiral Seymour, which started for Pekin, has returned to Tein-Tsin."

Despite the statement in the House of Commons by Mr. Brodrick, Parliamentary Secretary of the Foreign Office, that telegraphic communication between Taku and Tien-Tsin had been restored, no further news concerning the column has reached Chefoo. The Shanghai correspondents can only telegraph that they

It is not known whether the action of the Chinese commander in attacking the fleet of some thirty foreign warships was in obedience to orders or whether it was taken on his own impulse. Whichever it may have been, it is regarded here as altering the aspect of the situation to the extent of putting China at war with the civilized world. No very definite opinions are expressed by the press as to what steps are incumbent on the latter in the face of the grave actualities, though all the newspapers agree that the first care of all the Powers is to save their respective legations and subjects in Pekin.

The belief grows stronger everywhere in Europe, except in France, that Russia is playing a deep game of self-aggrandisement in China. Few go so far as to affirm that she instigated the great massacre which it is now believed has taken place. Such an idea is really absurd, for the rising has grown to such proportions that extensive op-A semi-official despatch from Chefoo states erations by all the Powers are now Russia's taking a disproportionate part in the operations. It is impossible as yet to furnish definite information as to the respective attitudes of the Powers or to say whether a tentathe attempts in Paris to show serious disagreement on certain points do not find credence in

The fact that the combined fleets acted in hearty cooperation in the capture of the Taku forts is taken as a good augury of successful unity in the greater operations for the subjugation of the country which must follow.

The spirited action of M. Delcassé, the French Foreign Minister, in behalf of the French Consul at Yunnan, attracts much attention. A report was published here this afternoon that represented the French Government as holding the Chinese Ambassador at Paris as a hostage for M. François and the statement naturally created a sensation.

The report, however, was not accurate. M. Delcasse's warning was addressed to the Viceroy of Yunhan. That official was told that his life would answer for the lives of French citizens in his power, and that he could not escape the reach of France. An official of the French Foreign Office in subsequently commenting on the incident explained that M. Franco's's message had been four days in transmission. It was most probable that he had sent later despatches which had been termined that if any Frenchmen are massacred in Yunnan it will not be contented this time with the mere dismissal of the Viceroy. His life will be at stake. The Chinese have no respect for anything but force, and France is prepared to meet the Chinese on this issue.

FRENCH WARNING TO CHINA. If Consul at Junnan-Son Is Injured Viceros Must Answer With His Life.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN. PARIS, June 18. - M. Francois, the French Consul at Lang-Chow, cables M. Delcasse, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, from Junnan-Sen, under date of June 14, as follows:

"We are prevented from leaving and are practically prisoners in our houses. The Eng-We are without clothes and everything has been taken away. Even the cipher is gone and we cannot cable the Legation. [M. Pichon at Pekin.] The Government must demand energetic action from the Government at Pekin in order that we may be able to leave here safe

and sound. On receipt of the above message M. Delcasse being unable to reach Pekin by cable, invited the Chinese Ambassador to come to the Foreign Office and asked him to telegraph the Vicero of Junnan that if anything hap ened to M. Francois he would answer for it to France with

his life. M. Delcassé did not know just how to reach M. François, but at the san e time he filed a despatch addressed to him which conveyed the substance of the above statement, and told the Consul if possible to present the de-patch to the Viceroy. The Chinese Ambassador promised that he would do all in his power to have the Frenchmen in China taken care of.

M. Delcasse's tone in addressing the Ambassador was very severe. The diplomat, in spite of his usual Oriental complacency, was visibly

News has been received that pirates are be sylvania Railroad,

correspondent to-day, had certainly been less severe than his colleague at Lorenzo Marques. The impression prevails here that England is not wholly ignorant of the landing of arms at Macao, a Portuguese possession at the southwest entrance of the Canton River. Should the insurrection in southern China as-

sume formidable dimensions France will find difficulty in defending her large interests there, while contemporaneously supporting effectively the Russian policy at Pekin, which, your correspondent is assured, aims at maintaining the status quo. It is asserted that Germany assents to this policy, whereas Great Britain and Japan are reported to be seeking to suppress the Empress and revolutionize the Government by installing the reformers. It is stated that it will shortly be seen that serious divergencies of views exist among the Powers interested in the Chinese problem, though because of the common danger every effort has been made to cover

them up. The French troops will probably advance and seize Mongtze if M. François is not released. This will reopen the question of the preponder ance of British or French influence in Yunnan, which has already aroused much jealousy.

CO-OPERATION OF THE POWERS. Mr. Bredrick Repeats in the House of Commons That There Is Cordial, United Action.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN. LONDON, June 18.-In the House of Commons to-day the Right Hon. William St. John Brodrick, Under Secretary for Foreign Affairs, said the latest report from Taku had been brought by a Japanese gunboat which arrived at Chefoo last night. When she left Taku the forts had opened fire on the warships. The vessels at the mouth of the river replied to the fire. Mr. Brodrick added that additional troops from Hong Kong were expected to arrive at Taku on Thursday and additional ships were on the way. All the ships in the vicinity had landed men, and he Powers were acting in cordial cooperation.

Mr. Brodrick said that no news had been reeived from Sir Claude Macdonald, the British Minister to China, since June 12. The lates telegram from Admiral Seymour, who was in ommand of the international force marching toward Pekin, was dated June 13. Mr. Brodrick said that no effort would be spared to get n touch with the British Admiral and render him every assistance. Within the last hour, he said, the Government had heard that telegraphic communication with Taku and Tien-I'sin had been restored.

In the House of Lords, Prime Minister Salisbury stated that Admiral Seymour had returned to Tien-Tsin. The Government, Lord Salisbury said, did not know exactly what grounds Admiral Seymour had for returning or what his intentions were. The Taku forts had een bombarded, but no definite information had been received as to the result. The Premier said he would like very much to be able to give fuller information on this subject as it was one that had created the greatest anxiety, but he

INDIA REGIMENTS FOR CHINA. Also Sending More Men and a French Force Awaits Sailing Orders.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN. LONDON, June 18.-The Seventh Bengal Infan-

The Central News announces that the Japan ese Legation in London has received a message stating that the Government has sent 1,000 Japanese soldiers to Tien-Tsin. A despatch from Hong Kong save that the

British cruiser Daphne left there for Taku this SIMLA, June 18 .- In addition to the Seventh Bengal Infantry the First Sikh Regiment is

going to Hong Kong. French troops are here waiting to embark for

orthern China. BERLIN, June 18.-Emperor William Inspected t Brunsbuttel the German gunboat Tiger prior o her departure for China.

BREST. June 18.-The cruisers Guichen and Admiral Charuer have been ordered to proceed

ALARMING NEWS FOR ROME. Twenty Roman Catholic Missionaries and Eight Sisters Reported Missing.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN. ROME, June 18.-The Propaganda has received a telegram from Mgr. Moccagatta saying the situation of ten Bishoprics in China i alarming. Twenty Roman Catholic missionaries and eight sisters are missing

NOT WAR, SAYS WU TING FANG. He Declares That the Firing on the Ships Wa

a Mistake and Will Be Explained. WASHINGTON, June 18. - "War? It's absurd, said Mr. Wu Ting Fang, the Chinese Minister, to a reporter for THE SUN to-night. Mr. Wu spoke with emphasis. He is usually all repose. To-night he was action personified. "My people do not want war," he continued. "It is ab-

"What would you say of the firing upon the ships of the allied forces?" he was asked.

"It was a mistake. It will be explained. It is not understood, I believe. Often in a state of unrest forts fire shots across the bow or over ships which proceed within range of their guns as a warning not to go on. Why, this is not war. Insurrection is not war. Such talk is nonsense. Some people say this afternoon that I am going to leave here. That is ridicu lous. Why should I? There is no authenticated information, officially or otherwise, that indicates to my mind an offence against the

American people. Fabrications, all fabrica

indicates to my mind an offence against the American people. Fabrications, all fabrications. Rumors, all of them.

"You ask me if I have learned anything, he continued. "No I have not. It is not the policy of my country to send information to me, or to my colleagues in Europe of a condition such as is described in the public papers. The best indication to my mind that that condition does not exist is the form to which it has been exaggerated, is the very fact that neither I, nor my colleagues in Europe, have been informed of it or of anything else by our Government. We would be the very first to know of it here, and the information would come to us because there would be a great deal for us to say to the governments to which we have been sent. Do you think that if my government wanted to send us information that it could not use the wires over which it has control? Would any of the countries through which the wires pass refuse to transmit a message to me or to my colleagues?

"You ask me to express myself on the situation. I am perfectly willing to do so. It is particularly my mission here to satisfy the American people of the good feeling of my country. I cannot fabricate, though. I must tell the truth. That is—that I do not know any more of the situation in Pekin than you do. I am perfectly willing to tell you all I know. I have heard nothing officially. I am looking for news through the newspapers and willing to give them what I have. I cannot talk with you upon complications that may arise. That would be impossible. Upon anything that I am assured has happened I am very willing to speak."

Mr. Wu will inform the State Department immediately upon receiving any advices from his Government. There was a report to-night that Mr. Wu was to be held a hostage by this Government. There was a report to-night that Mr. Wu was to be held a hostage by this Government for the safety of Minister Conger.

hat Mr. Wil was to be need a minister Conger, lovernment for the safety of Minister Conger, one enterprising newspaper had men watching he Chinese legation until a late hour for the ap-

"The Saratoga Limited." cing June 23d leaves Grand Central Station urday at 1:50 P. M.; other week days at d. ruuning at the same speed as the "Em-Express," and stopping only at Troy.—Ads.

coming active on the West River in North Canton and that the depredations are extending almost to the French possessions. Twenty thousand rifles have been landed in the past COL. LISCUM WILL NEED A WEEK TO two months by way of Hong Kong through GET THE NINTH READY AT MANILA. Macao, with the knowledge, it is alleged, of the

Portuguese Governor of that province. This official, said a French politician to THE SUN One of the Strongest Regiments in the Army and Has Done Excellent Service in Luzon -Typhoon May Cause Delay in Withdrawing Men From Where They Are Now. Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

> MANILA, June 18, 5:35 P. M.—The Ninth Reginent, Col. Liscum commanding, which was ordered yesterday to proceed as quickly as possible to China to reënforce the American naval force now there, musters 1,400 men. It is one of the strongest regiments in the Army, and its men are now employed in garrisoning nine important railroad towns. The extraordinary activity of the regiment has practically pacified The work of transferring the men to Manila

> has begun, but it will probably be a week before they are all here. In addition to the difficulty of regarrisoning the Ninth Regiment's territory, the rains are causing great delay in The railroad is washed out for a distance of a hundred yards near Tarlac, and this makes it necessary to ferry the men across the torrent. Many telegraph wires have been rendered

Gen. Wheaton, who commands 200 posts and 25,000 men, has been compelled to rely entirely upon messengers for the transmission of orders. Capt. Webster of Gen. Wheaton's staff took the order to Col. Liscum to move his regiment to China.

The storm which commenced here five days ago continues without abatement. A second typhoon overtook the first, making the weather conditions extremely The transport Hancock, having on board 200 sick troops, sailed for home on Sunday, but she was caught in the typhoon and compelled to run back to the harbor for shelter. When she arrived her hatches were battened down, which made it very uncomfortable for those who were compelled to remain below deck.

The entire consular corps has formally visited Judge Taft and the other members of the Philppine Commission.

THE PRESIDENT ACTS PROMPTLY. Battleship Oregon as Well as Troops From Mantla Ordered to China.

WASHINGTON, June 18. - The United States Government, appreciating the dangers to the peace of the world which have grown out of the Chinese situation, took prompt action today on the basis of despatches from Rear Admiral Remey at Manila, Rear Admiral Kempff at Taku, Commander Taussig at Chefoo and Consul-General Goodnow at Shanghai. These despatches represented conditions that bear promise of startling events, and the Government lost no time in arranging to meet them, The most important action of the President, for he is directing every movement of American participation in the Chinese troubles, was to direct that the battleship Oregon, the most noted warship of the new navy, be ordered to proceed immediately to Taku for such service as might be required. Instructions were sent o Rear Admiral Kempff commanding the divsion of the American fleet in North Chinese waters, for his guidance in the international omplications which have come from the engagement between the Chinese forts and the foreign ships at Taku. Under directions from the President arrangements are being made merican forces from the Philippines to China. Should the situation require it, more ships and more men will be sent to the mouth of Pei-ho River. Even now it is safe to say that at least two more war vessels, not counting the four at Taku and bound thither, will be ordereed to join Admiral Kempff. As for the assignment of military reënforcements, conditions in the Philippines will not be permitted to interfere with what the President believes to be his duty toward American citizens in the Celestial Empire. If more troops are necessary they will

It is worth while saying right here that the Administration has prepared for just such a contingency as the engagement at the Tak forts and the apparent defeat of the international relief column. The War Department had already directed Major-Gen. MacArthur to despatch a regiment of infantry to Taku, and the necessary orders had been issued by Gen. MacArthur while people here were thinking that the Administration officials were hesitating about sending troops. The Navy Department had directed the gunboat Yorktown to proceed to Taku with a message to Admiral Kempff and to assist him if necessary. If telegraphic communications between Taku and the outside world has been reëstablished the Yorktown will remain there, thus insuring a squadron of six American vessels, the flagship Newark, a protected cruiser; the battleship Oregon, and the gunboats Yorktown, Nashville and New Orleans, with two armed supply ships, the So-

are and the Iris. At an early hour this morning the Navy Department received the first news of the engageent between the Taku forts and the allied naval forces in the following despatch from Commander Taussig of the Yorktown: "CREPOO, June 17 .- Taku fort fired

oreign vessels about 12:45 A. M., June 17. Surendered to allied forces at 8 A. M. The British Admiral at Tien-Tsin. Later this message came from Rear Admiral

Remey, Commander in-Chief of the Asiastic naval station: "CAVITÉ, June 18. Taussig cables that Taku forts fired upon foreign gun vessels and then surrendered to ailied forces on the morning of June 17. Kempff asks instructions about joining other Powers who are taking united action demanding that Taku forts be turned over to them to secure favorable termination of trouble Will Department instruct Kempfi through Taussig at Chefoo and give me the sam

nformation? REMEY. After a consultation between the President. secretary Hay and Acting Secretary of the Navy Hackett, the instructions asked for by Admira Kempff were prepared and telegraphed. They were in general terms and, it is understood iid not refer specifically to the extent of American participation in the joint demand for the possession of the Tuku forts. In substance leemed proper for the protection of America. interests, keeping in mind, however, that he must avoid anything committing the United States to an alliance with foreign nations for political purposes. Secretary Hay, when asked oncerning the character and extent of the intructions, made this answer:

"Our naval forces in that region have been directed to act concurrently with the forces of the other powers for the protection of all

An official of high rank, who declined to permit the use of his name, had this to say bout the instructions:

"Admiral Rempff may do anything he At if his object is to protect the interests of the United States in China. Should he deem t necessary to join in the demand for the surrender of the Taku forts, believing that their cossession by the foreign forces was es ential to the protection of the lives and property of Americans in that region, he has ample authority to do so under his instructions. He

Three Past Trains to St. Louis Via Pennsyl-

TO TAKE 1,400 MEN TO CHINA was instructed to protect all American interests, not merely those of United States citizens, but of the Government of the United States. Under his instructions he is left free to act. The Government is trusting to his discretion

> A short despatch from Commander Taussig at Chefoo, announcing the receipt of the Navy Department's instructions to Admiral Kempff and the departure of the Yorktown from Chefoo for Taku, was the only other news received by the Navy Department. Rear Admiral Crowninshield, Chief of the Bureau of Navigation, has adopted the practice of making public the contents of every news message from China, believing that the American people are entitled to know what is going on there. Another message received by the Government was from Consul-General Goodnow Shanghai. It confirmed the news contained in Admiral Remey's and Commander Taussig's despatches.

The orders for the Oregon to proceed to Taku were sent to her commander, Capt. G. F F. Wilde, early this afternoon. The big armorclad is at Hong Kong, and allowing for the time necessary to coal and provision her and for making the run, she may not be at Taku the movement of the troops toward Manils. for a week. She has nearly five hundred men on board, and some of these will undoubtedly be detailed for shore service. Gen. Mac-Arthur's statement that the Ninth Infantry will not be able to leave Manila until June 24 makes improbable that the regiment will reach Taku before July 1. The cruiser New Orleans now at Cavité, and the gunboat Don Juan de Austria, now at Swatow, China, may be ordered to Taku within the next twenty-four

None of the officials of the Administration who were seen to-day were willing to say whether they believed a state of war exists in China within the accepted meaning of the term. Nearly all of them said they preferred to wait until they had further advices about the reasons for the engagement at Taku. It was admitted by some of them, however, that the exchange of shots between the Taku forts and the allied foreign fleet would be accepted ordinarily as an act of war, but owing to the peculiar conditions of the Chinese trouble the matter might be settled amicably by an apology from the Chinese Government and a repudiation of the action of the native commander at Taku in opening fire, with a promise that he and others responsible for the indignity should be punished. But the officials of the Government do not deny that the excuse for which some of the foreign nations are said to have been looking to send large armies into China has been afforded by the battle at the mouth of the Pei-Ho.

The Government's greatest concern is over the fate of Minister Conger, the members of his legation, and the American contingent of the international relief column, which started for Pekin under the British Admiral Seymour The meagre statement in Commander Tanssig's despatch that the British Admiral was at Tien-Tsin caused a considerable worry at the White House and the Navy Department, as it indicated that the relief column had been forced to retire to Tien-Tsin. The gunboat Monocacy. now with Kempff's command, was ordered to Taku because she could ascend the Pie-Ho to Tien-Tsin, where Kempff, according to one of his despatches, wanted to use her for "an inside base," supposedly for the supply of the Americans in the relief column. It was suggested this morning that the Monocacy may have been one of the vessels fired on in at tempting to pass the Taku forts, but as none of the official despatches mentioned any American vessel, it is now believed that the Monocacy was not concerned in the attack for the quick transportation of additional The naval authorities hope that she is at Tienunder Capt. McCalla. It is realized, however, that the foreigners in Pekin, if any are now alive cannot be succored for a fortnight at least if the international column was forced That this Government will not hes tate to throw a strong punitive force into China if Minister Conger has been killed appears to be settled. The Administration has deermined to adopt no half-way measures to secure reparation for any outrages of that sort. Naturally the responsible officials of the Government will not discuss the question whether a war with China in which the United States will have a part is probable, but there is no concealment of the Government's intention to go to the extent of its ability to secure espect for citizens of the United States and the Stars and Stripes in the Chinese Empire. Many telegrams of inquiry from people who have relations in Pekin were received by the

Department to-day. Minister Conger's sister Mrs. Baldwin, called in person on Secretary Hay in the hope of obtaining some partment is informed the American personnel of the legation consists of Mr. and Mrs. Conger, their daughter, a visiting lady, Huber tion: William G. Bainbridge of Iowa, Second Secretary, and F. V. Cheshire, interpreter. Lieut. Albert Key, U. S. N., Naval Attaché at Pekin and Tokio, may be at Pekin with Mrs Key, who was Miss Condit-Smith of this city. Lieut. Key is a son of the late Judge Key of Tennessee, Postmaster-General in the Cabinet

Herr Von Holleben, the German Ambassador and Mr. Wu Ting Fang, the Chinese Minister. called at the State Department just before oon to inquire for news from China. Herr Von Holleben was especially anxious to hea if anything additional in regard to the capture or murder of the German Minister at Pekin had been received, and was disappointed when told that the Department had no advices from the Chinese capital. He said that the German Embassy had no news about the China situation. Mr. Wu was likewise without official information. He expressed astonishment over the official news that the Taku forts had fired on the allied fleet and then surrendered. Mr Wu insisted that there must be some mistake, and declined to accept the report as abso lutely true.

NINTH REGIMENT ORDERED TO CHINA Its Departure From Manila Delayed by a Typhoon-Will Sail on the 24th.

WASHINGTON, June 18 .- Gen. MacArthur has cabled the War Department as follows: "MANILA, June 17 .- Ninth Infantry, Col. Lis cum, ordered Taku on Logan, fransportation Port Albert, probably start 24th. Typhoon de lays movement.

The selection of the Ninth Infantry to go to China to protect American interests was made after a careful inquiry by the War Department into the availability of troops for Chinese service. It is recognized that Gen. MacArthur cannot spare any troops from the different Manila stations. Many of these garrisons are held by detachments of troops only and it was found necessary to draw upon the garrisons of interior Luzon.

The Ninth Infantry has its headquarters at Tarlac, where, for several weeks past, insurgent leaders have been coming to surrender to Col Liscum. Companies E. F. G and H. of the regiment, are stationed at Tarlac. Company A is stationed at Odomel, Bat Capas, C at Ban ban, Dat Victoria, I at Murcia, K at Gerona and L and M at Concepcion. These garrisons are of easy access from the Manila and Dagupan railroad, and it will not be difficult to rush the troops from those places to Manila There the transport Logan is in waiting to take them on board for China. The Logan is one of the finest transports in the service and can carry 1,700 troops without any inconvenience Quartermaster-General Ludington said to-day

hat if necessary the Logan could easily carry The Ninth Infantry is one of the best regular

that if necessary the Logan could easily carry 2,000 troops.

The Ninth Infantry is one of the best regular regiments in the service. For seventeen years it saw service on the Western frontier, and was one of the regiments that was ordered to Chicago during the riots of 1894. It served in Arizona until 1891, when a portion of the regiment was sent to New York, the remainder being transferred to that State in 1892, and served chiefly at Madison Farracks. During the war with Spain the Ninth took purt in the campaign against Santiago, being a signed to Wykoff's brigade. The regiment took part in the assault on San Juan Hil, and after the surrender of Santiago was designated by Gen. Sharter as the regiment to march into and occupy the city. The regiment remained in Santiago until August, 1898, when it sailed to Montauk Point, and after a short period returned to its for ner station at Madison Barracks. In the following March the regiment was ordered to the Philippines. The first hattalion, under Capt. Rocke eller, marched to Caloocan without delay and it was while making a personal reconnoisance that Capt. Rockefeller disappeared. He has never been seen or heard from since. The regiment was a part of Gen. Lawton's column in the expedition to Arayat, and saw much hard marching during that movement. Col. Liscum hast wice been detached from the regiment, being in command of a brigade. As a brigade commander he relieved Brig. Gen. Wheeler.

Col. Liscum was born in Vermont 59 years, ago. He enlisted in the First Verm at Infantry less than a month after the outbreak of the Civil War, served in that regiment for three months as a corporal, enlisted as a rivate in the Twelfth United States infantry in February, 1862 and on Feb. 19, 1863, was commissioned a Second Lieutenan in this regiment. Since the war he has served in the Thirtieth, Twenty-fifth, Nineteenth. Twenty-second and Twenty-fourth Infantry reg.ments, and became Colonel of the Ninth on July 12, 1898, was wounded in the battle of San Juan. He was on sick leave un

woinded in the battle of San Juan. He was on sick leave until April, 1899, when he went to Manila in command of the Ninth. On Jan 15, 1900, he was placed in commard of the First Brigade, Second Division, Elghth Army Corps. and as such has been serving to the pre-ent time.

GERMAN ANXIETY.

Sovernment Making Every Effort to Learn the Fate of Its Minister at Pekin.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN BERLIN, June 18. - The German Consul at The oo telegraphs that a Japanese torpedo boat, which has arrived there, reports that the lega tions at Pekin have been taken.

The North German Gazette publishes a communicated note in reference to the despatch sent Saturday to THE SUN from Hong Kong, reporting the destruction of the legations at Pekin and the killing of the German Minister. It states that on receipt of report the German Government immediately telegraphed to its representatives at St. Petersburg and Chefoo and to the commander of the German squadron in Chinese waters asking for information. On Sunday replies were received from St. Petersburg and Chefoo to the effect that no confirmation of the report had been received. When on Monday the Japanese topedo boat's report arrived the German representatives London, St. Petersburg, Tokio and hanghai were instructed to make inquiries as speedily as possible, but they have not yet replied. A report received Monday from the German Consulate at Hong Kong "show that

no such news has been received there." RUSSIAN DEMAND FOR DAMAGES. M. De Glers Asks Five Million Taels for De

struction of Railroad Property. Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN. LONDON, June 18 .- A despatch to the Central ws from Shanghai, of to-day's date, says the Russian Minister to China, M. de Giers, has de manded 5,000,000 taels for damages to the rail-

THE CAPTURED FORTS.

Description of the Fortifications Now in Possession of the Allied Forces. WASHINGTON, June 18. - Capt. Sigsbee, Chief of the Office of Naval Intelligence, to-day issued the following statement about the Taku

forts:
"Taku is situated at the mouth of the Pei-Ho
River. The object of its fortification is to defend the bar at the mouth of the river, which is
accessible for deep-draught ships only at high
water. The defences consist of three forts, one
large one on the right shore and two smaller
ones on the left shore. All the forts are armed
with guns of the most diversified types and
calibers. The large fort has three bastions,
equipped with large-caliber guns for firing over
the parapet. In the construction of all the

cambers. The large fort has three bastions, equipped with large-caliber guns for firing over the parapet. In the construction of all the forts of this region the soft clay of the coast has been used, which in the dry season cracks and easily crumbles. For this reason the garrisons of these fortresses may be seen constantly at work repairing them, as otherwise serious injury would threaten the forts even from their own guns.

At Taku is stored the material for closing the mouth of the Pei-Ho River. In the forts there are mines for the same purpose. The inner for iffications, extending along the Pei-Ho River from their sea to Tien-Tsin, consist of all forts and fortified garrisons (impans) of the Li Hung Chang army. These are from cast to west as follows: Lutai, Sing-Tschou, Sjao-Tschou, Ma-Tschou, Tsju-Ljang-Tschou and Tien-Tsin. The only one of these worthy of notice is Sing-Tschou, being the only one armed with modern guns. All the forts are connected with Tien-Tsin and the sea by a gravel military

TO PRAY FOR MISSIONARIES.

Special Services Here and in Boston and No news from American missionaries in China was received at any of the missionary headquarters in this city yesterday. The continued lack of news from Pekin, now that the wires lack of news from Pekin, now that the wires have been restored, causes great anxiety at the headquarters of the Pre-byterians and Methodists, both of which denominations have missionaries in the Chinese capital. The Rev. Isaac T. Headland said yesterday that the Methodists alone have sixteen missionaries in Pekin. He said there are about two hundred foreigners there, sixty of whom are Americans. The Catholics have the most property of any denomination. They have three compounds, three fine churches, a conventandan industrial school. The Presbyterians have two compounds. Mr. Headland added that none of the legations is provided with means of defence, except the German, where a few soldiers are kept on guard.

ept on guard. The pastors and members of all the churches The pastors and members of all the churches are invited to units in a service of special grayer for the imperlised missionaries in China tomorrow noon, is the Pre-styterian building, 156 Fifth avenue. Simultaneously meetings will be held in London, Boston and other cities. The meeting here will be in charge of the Rev. Arthur J. Brown, D. D.

TAKU CUT OFF BY WIRE.

Steamer to Run Dally With Messages From Chefoo to Taku and Tien-Tsin. THE SUN has received this notice from the

graph Company: "Our latest advices are that the land lines be "Our latest advices are that the land lines between Taku and Lutai (a telegraph station on the route via Helampo contiguous to and to the northward of Taku) are now interrupted, thus cutting off entirely communication with Tien-Tsin and Taku. Telegrams for these two places with full postal address in plain language, but not under registered address, will be forwarded by post from Chefoo. A steamer will run daily between Chefoo and Tien-Tsin. Telegrams for New Chwang and Port Arthur may be sent via Helampo."

The Commercial Cable Company makes this announcement:

announcement:

"We are advised that the Chinese Government announces that telegrams for Tien-Tsin and Taku, with the entire address in plain language, will be forwarded from the foo by mail at the sender's risk. There is a daily steamship rvice between Chefoo and Tien-Tsin."

Japanese Premier Wont Resign Now. Special Cable Desputch to THE SUN. YOKOHAMA, June 18 .- At the request of the

Emperor, and in view of the situation in China, Prime Minister Yamagata has consented to re-

ROOSEVELT MAY BE OUT.

HE CHECKS THE ATTEMPT TO NAME HIM FOR VICE-PRESIDENT.

Issues a Statement That He Doesn't Underes timate the Honor, but Thinks He Can Serve the Party Best by Trying for Governor Again-Senator Hound Takes the Statement as Absolutely Sincere and Says I Eliminates the Governor From Considers tion -Roosevelt's Stardy Battle to Stem the Tide for Him-Hanna Heips in the Work The Onto Senator Now is for Long Pires and Fatrbanks Second Sava He Controll the Convention-The Various Conferences of the Div-Some Platform Suggestions

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., June 18. Before saying single word about the Vice-Presidential situal tion treecding the Republican National Convention a statement which Gov. Theodore Roos velt of the State of New York issued at the Hote Walton at a o'clock this afternoon should be printed. Gov. Roosevelt rend the tatement himself to an assemblage of more than 101 n w paper correspondents. He read it slowly and with emphasis. He seemed to be very much

in earnest. This statement was:
"In view of the revival of the talk of myself as a Vice-Presidential candidate I have this to say: It is impossible too deeply to express how touched I am by the attitude of those d degates who have wished me to take this nomination Moreover, it is not necessary to say how thoroughly I understand the high honor and dignits of the offer, an offer so high and so hordrable that it is well worthy the ambition of ant man in the United States. But while I appreciate ail this to the full, nevertheless I feel most deeply that the field of my best usefulness to the public and to the party is in New York State, and if the party should see fit to renominate me for Governor I can in that position help the national ticket as in no other way. I very earnestly ask that every friend of mine in the convention respect my wish and my judgment n this matter.

With Gov. Roosevelt at the time were National Committeeman Henry C. Payne of Wisconsin, Representative Lucius N. Littnuer of New York and Frederick W. Hells of Yonkers, N.Y. Gov. Roosevelt did not issue the statement until after he had a three hours' conference with the following gentlemen:

Prof. Jenks of Cornell University, Dr. Shaw, editor of the Review of Reviews: Nicholas Murray Butler, Frederick W. Holls and ex-Judge Coyne, all of New York, and Clinton Rogers Woodruff of Philadelphia. Mr. Woodruff is greatly interested in all political reform measures in the Quaker City.

Gov. Roosevelt's statement has been made the keynote of the situation to-night. Senator Hanna and all his political and personal friends declare unreservedly that it eliminates Gov. Roosevelt from the situation as a Vice-Presidential possibility. Senator Hanna, after a long conference with these friends, says that this convention should either nominate the Hon. John D. Long of Massachusetti Secretary of the Navy, or United States Senator Charles W. Fairbanks of Indiana. Senator Hanna believes, however, that the stronger andidate of the two is Secretary Long. for the reason that the Secretary of the Navy has been identified with the policies and purposes of the Administration for the last four years and that with the President he would in every respect represent those policies and purposes which must come up for discussion

n the approaching national battle Gov. Roosevelt's personal friends who con ferred with him to-day, and whose names are mentioned above, agree with Senator Hanna that the Governor has eliminated himself from this situation. Senator Platt did not care to say anything for publication at this time, at though it was understood from personal friends who discussed the matter with him that he believed that the great enthusiasm which has been manifested here for Roosevelt cannot be snuffed out by any such statement as that Platt still believes that this convention is to

be stampeded for Gov. Roosevelt.

NO STAMPEDE, SAYS HANNA Senator Hanna, however, declared very late o-night that he had this convention well in and, and that it could not be stampeded for Gov. Roosevelt. Senator Hanna further said: "Gov. Roosevelt's statement has been taken y everybody to be his final and irrevocable decision. I believe that you will hear a great deal more about Secretary Long as the possible Vice-Presidential candidate of this conven-

NEW YORK DELEGATION MEETS.

The New York State delegation met to-night the Hotel Walton and was in session exactly ten minutes. Chairman Odell, of the Republican State Committee, called the delegation to order, and Senator Chauncey M. Depew took the chair. The following officers of the delegation were unanimously elected: Chairman of the delegation, Senator Platt; nember of the Committee on Resolutions. President Lemuel Ely Quigg of the New York County Committee; to notify the President, Frank S. Witherbee; Rules, George W. Aldridge; Credentials, Representative Sereno E. Payne; Permanent Organization, Gen. William C. Wallace; Vice-President for the delegation in the convention, ex-Gov. Frank S. Black: to notify the Vice-Presidential nominee, Gen. Francis V. Greene; Secretary of the delegation, John W. Dwight. The delegation then adjourned until 4 o'clock to-mor o / af-

ternoon. Pursuant to the promise of Nicholas Murray lutler and Frederick W. Holls last night Gov. Roosevelt started out this morning early to stamp out the enthustasm with which his name had been received by every delegation arriving n this city from the Western States. He first sent word down to Senator Hanna's department that he would like to see Mr. Hanna and the chairman of the Republican National Committee was quickly closeted with Gov. Roose-

velt. The whole history of Gov. Roosevelt's attitude on this Vice-Presidential nomination for the last six months was gone over. It was reestled how Gov. Roosevelt on his last visit to Washington called upon President McKinley and told him that he was not a candidate for Vice-President for the reason that he believed that his usefulness lay in a second term as Governor of New York State. On that visit to Washington Gov. Roosevelt also told Senator Hanna and all others closely associated with Senator Hanna the very words that he had told Presi-

dent McKinley. On that visit President McKinley, Senator danna and all the others recognized the incerity of Gov. Roosevelt and took him at his word and ceased any consideration of his name as the President's running mate in th national campaign of 1900.

HANNA SAYS OF ROOSEVELT'S SINCERITY.

Gov. Roosevelt recalled all of these conprestions to Senator Hanna this morning and the Ohio statesman said that he was perfectly aware that the Governor was sincere

and that he had not had any part or parcel n the great enthusiasm with which his name had been received ever since he had arrived with the New York State delegation on last Saturday evening. Gov. Roosevelt at the same time told Senator Hanna again that he dent and Senator Hanna left the conference with the Governor saying that he was perfect convinced that Gov. Roosevelt intended